

**DOCKET NO.:** MSFT-2733/305587.01  
**Application No.:** 10/646,575  
**Office Action Dated:** June 14, 2005

**PATENT**  
**REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED**  
**PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO**  
**37 CFR § 1.116**

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-16 have been rejected.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Call (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0143521) in view of Vincent, III (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0268240). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

The independent claims include a set of schemas that define different types of items, elements, and relationships, and a customizable subset of schemas that extend the set of schemas and are dependent on the set of schemas. The subsets are customizable, e.g., by a customer or vendor. (See application, as originally filed, at paragraphs [0162] – [0165], for example).

Call describes schemas (e.g., paragraphs [0115] – [0117]), but neither discloses nor suggests a customizable subset of schemas that extend a set of schemas and are dependent on the set of schemas. The Office Action acknowledges this deficiency at page 3, lines 6-7.

The Office Action states that Vincent, III (paragraphs [0100] – [0112] and [0115]) teaches a customizable subset of schemas that extend the set of schemas and are dependent on the set of schemas. It is respectfully submitted that Vincent, III fails to disclose or suggest such features, and in fact, teaches away from a customizable subset of schemas that extend a set of schemas.

In Vincent, III, there is a primary schema repository that stores all schemas, and there are mirrored and/or local schema repositories that hold all, or a subset of all, schemas (paragraph [0104]). These mirrored and/or local schema repositories merely contain some or all of the existing schemas, but the schemas themselves that are contained within the mirrored and/or local schema repositories are not customizable, as recited in the claims. Moreover, because the schemas in the subsets in Vincent, III, are not customizable, they cannot extend the set of schemas, as recited in the claims.

Additionally, paragraph [0106] in Vincent, III, states that “Local schema repositories can be created, but preferably the schemas downloaded in the local schema repository match exactly the schemas in the schema repository 120 [the primary schema repository]”.

Paragraph [0107] states a similar preference with respect to mirrored schema repositories. Thus, Vincent, III, in fact teaches away from customizing schemas, and in particular teaches away from a customizable subset of schemas that extend a set of schemas, as recited in the claims.

Paragraph [0108] in Vincent, III, describes password protected sub-repositories that may be created within the primary schema repository. However, these sub-repositories must only contain some or all of the exact same schemas in the primary schema repository. These sub-repositories do not provide for a customizable subset of schemas that extend a set of schemas, as recited in the claims.

Claims 8 and 13 include similar features to those described above with respect to claim 1. Based on the foregoing, claims 1, 8, and 13 should not be rejected as being unpatentable over Call in view of Vincent, III. Thus, claims 1, 8, and 13 are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 are dependent from claim 1, claims 9 and 12 are dependent from claim 8, and claim 14 is dependent from claim 13, and are therefore allowable as well. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

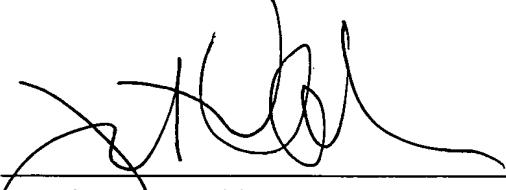
Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Call in view of Vincent, III and Freyssinet et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,564). Claims 4 and 5 are dependent from claim 1, claims 10 and 11 are dependent from claim 8, and claims 15 and 16 are dependent from claim 13, and are therefore patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1, 8, and 13. Freyssinet fails to cure the deficiencies of Call and Vincent, III. Freyssinet describes data routing and transformation but does not teach or suggest a customizable set of subschemas. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

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